



Law offices of
DODDS & ASSOCIATES

www.doddsassociates.com
E-mail: j.dodds@doddsassociates.com

1707 N. St., NW, Washington DC 20036
Tel: (202) 463-3275 Cellular: (202) 276-1289 Fax: (202) 463-3278

Application No 10/065,549
Inventor: HART, Robert B.
Filing date: 10/29/2002
Confirmation no. 7682
Art Unit 3611
Examiner Yeagley, Daniel S.

Washington September 10th, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Applications
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Arl. VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED
SEP 15 2003
GROUP 3600

Sir;

I have submitted yesterday (September 9th, 2003) a reply to the Office Action mailed on 07/17/2003 regarding the above-mentioned patent application. By a mistake the reply did not contain the substitute drawing that was supposed to be enclosed. To correct the mistake, I enclose here a copy of the reply to the Office Action, which has already been send by certified mail (tracking number 7003 1010 0000 6901 43 45) and the missing substitute drawing sheet.

Yours truly;

John Dodds

Reg No. 45533



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No 10/065,549

Inventor: HART, Robert B.

Filing date 10/29/2002

Confirmation no: 7682

Art Unit: 3611

Examiner Yeagley, Daniel S.

Washington, September 9th, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria

VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir;

This is to reply the Office Action mailed on 07/17/2003.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows;

6. (canceled) .

7. (currently amended) The system according to claim 5; said removable locking collar including a key,

RECEIVED
SEP 15 2003
GROUP 3600

said ~~removable~~-locking collar including a key-activated locking mechanism that only allows the ~~removable~~locking collar to be coupled or decoupled from the main body when the key is received in the locking mechanism.

12. The method according to claim 11,
step (a) including, removing the ~~locking~~security pin from the receiver tube and the coupling hitch.